

Message Text

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 01 JIDDA 03256 301017Z
ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 COME-00 EB-08 OPIC-06 AID-05 /030 W
-----120506 301612Z /43

R 300728Z APR 78
FM AMEMBASSY JIDDA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1910
INFO USLO RIYADH

UNCLAS JIDDA 3256

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: BTRA, SA
SUBJ: LOW-COST HOUSING PROPOSAL: WILLIAM REPS

REF: (A) STATE 076441, (B) JIDDA 3196

1. WILLIAM REPS PHONED EMBASSY COMMERCIAL CENTER APRIL 9 FROM RIYADH STATING THAT HE HAD NO LUCK WITH MINISTRY OF HOUSING AND THAT HE WANTS EMBASSY TO LET HIM KNOW WHEN IT WILL BE CONVENIENT FOR HIM TO RETURN TO KINGDOM, PREFERABLY AROUND END OF MAY. REPS ADDED THAT POSTS HAD NOT RPT NOT BEEN HELPFUL TO HIM AND BLAMED THIS ON FACT THAT TWO OFFICERS WHOSE NAMES HE HAD WERE BOTH OUT OF COUNTRY AT TANGIER COMMERCIAL OFFICERS CONFERENCE DURING REPS VISIT. DURING CALL REPS DECLINED TO SEAK WITH OTHER EMBOFFS AT COMMERCIAL CENTER AND WAS RUDE TO AMERICAN SECRETARY WITH WHOM HE SPOKE WHEN SHE SUGGESTED TO TAKE UP MATTER WITH OFFICER WHO WAS PRESENT.

2. EMBASSY WISHES POINT OUT THAT ONLY IN EXCEPTIONAL CIRCUMSTANCES WHERE THERE WAS PREVIOUS CONTACT DO WE MAKE APPOINTMENTS WITH SAG OFFICIALS ON BEHALF OF U.S. BUSINESSMEN, HE WAS GIVEN TEL NUMBER OF DEPUTY MINISTER FOR HOUSING AT RIYADH BY COMMERCIAL COUNSELOR PRIOR TO DEPARTURE FOR TANGIER AND REFERED TO USLO RIYADH FOR ASSISTANCE. IN ATTEMPT TO ASSIST IN VIEW REFTEL. A
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USLO OFFICER DID APPROACH OFFICE OF DEPUTY MINISTER OF HOUSING CONCERNING APPOINTMENT FOR REPS. DEPUTY MINISTER WAS UNAVAILABLE. THIS MESSAGE COULD NOT BE RELAYED TO MR. REPS AT TELEPHONE NUMBER HE LEFT WITH USLO AND MR. REPS HIMSELF DID NOT CALL BACK USLO.

3. ACTION REQUESTED: PLEASE ADVISE MR. REPS OF EMBASSY

POLICY RE INDIVIDUAL BUSINESS APPOINTMENTS WITH SAG
OFFICIALS ON BEHALF OF INDIVIDUAL U.S. BUSINESS MEN
ALONG LINES REFTEL B. WE ARE AWARE OF SEVERAL INSTANCES
IN WHICH U.S. BUSINESSMEN WROTE OR CABLED SENIOR SAG
OFFICIALS TO REQUEST APPOINTMENT. FOLLOWED UP WITH
TELEPHONE CALL UP ARRIVAL, AND SUCCEEDED IN HAVING
DESIRED MEETINGS. PLEASE INFORM MR. REPS THAT TIME OF
RETURN TO KINGDOM IS ONE OF HIS OWN CHOOSING BUT THAT
IT WILL BE BETTER TO CABLE DEPUTY MINISTER LINJAWI AND
SUBMIT PROPOSAL IN ARABIC BEFORE HE DECIDES TO VISIT.
POST CAN REQUEST INFO FROM SAG WHETHER PROPOSAL RECEIVED
AND REACTION TO FUTURE VISIT.
DANIELS

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